Amendments to the Claims:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Applicant reserves the right to pursue any canceled claims at a later date.

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A help system comprising:

a data processing device storing a first help facility, wherein the first help facility provides help data to a user on the basis of context data produced implicitly or explicitly by the user, wherein the help data is stored in the first help facility; and

a non-volatile storage medium storing a second help facility accessed by the data processing device via the Internet such that the context data is adopted automatically in the second help facility, wherein the second help facility provides additional online help data to the user on the basis of the context data, wherein the additional online help data is stored in the second help facility,

wherein the additional online help data is visualized for the user in a display device together with the help data provided by the fist help facility, and

wherein the first help facility is configured as an offline help facility and the second help facility is configured as an online help facility.

22. (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the first help facility is an application or a part of an application.

23.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the context data are determined on the basis of search terms.

24.-25. (canceled)

26.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the context data comprises data defined explicitly by the user, search expressions, and data predetermined by the first help facility which can be implicitly derived from a current workflow.

27.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the context data comprises data and/or information about the version of the first help facility.

28.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the additional online help data provided by the second help facility can be visualized for the user in a display device, together with the offline help data provided by the first help facility.

29.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the context data defined by the user using the first help facility is stored at least as a link and the second help facility can be automatically activated via said link or any link.

30.   (currently amended) The help system according to claim to 29 29, wherein the link or any link can then automatically activate the second help facility, when the second help facility is available online for the first help facility and thus for the data processing device, whereby if the second help facility is not available online, said link or any link and/or its context data is intermediately stored until the second help facility is available online.

31.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the additional help data provided by the second help facility is stored on the second help facility such

that the additional help data is supplemented by metadata, the metadata defining the context in which the respective additional help data is relevant.

32.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein help data stored on the first help facility is automatically supplemented such that the additional help data provided by the second help facility is stored in the first help facility.

33.   (previously presented) The help system according to claim 21, wherein the additional help data is stored in the second help facility and structured according to the workflow of the user, such that when additional help data is determined, help data is provided only for a current processing step.

34.   (currently amended) An automation device, comprising:
a help system, the help system comprising:
        a data processing device storing a first help facility, wherein the first help facility provides help data to a user on the basis of context data produced implicitly or explicitly by the user, wherein the help data is stored in the first help facility; and
        a non-volatile medium storing a second help facility accessed by the data processing device via the Internet such that the context data is adopted automatically in the second help facility, wherein the second help facility provides additional online help data to the user on the basis of the context data, wherein the additional online help data is stored in the second help facility,
        wherein the additional online help data is visualized for the user in a display device together with the help data provided by the fist help facility, and
        wherein the first help facility is configured as an offline help facility and the second help facility is configured as an online help facility.

35.   (canceled)

36.   (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the context data are determined on the basis of search terms.

37.   (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the context data comprises data explicitly defined by the user and data predetermined by the first help facility, wherein the data are derived implicitly from a current workflow.

38.   (currently amended) A method for providing help data, the method comprising:

implicitly or explicitly defining context data regarding a first help facility by a user;

providing offline help data to the user, the offline help data being based on the context data, and wherein the offline help data is stored in the first help facility;

automatically adopting the context data in a second help facility;

providing additional online help data to the user based on the context data by the second help facility, wherein the additional online help data is stored in the second help facility,

wherein the additional online help data provided by the second help facility is visualized for the user in a display device, together with the offline help data provided by the first help facility, and

wherein the context data is stored as at least one link, and the second help facility is automatically activated via said link or any link.

39.   (canceled)

40.   (currently amended) The method according to claim [[39]] 38, wherein the link or any link then automatically activates the second help facility, if the second help facility is available online for the first help facility and thus for the data processing device, whereby if the second help facility is not available online, the link or any link and/or its context data is stored until the second help facility is available online.

41.   (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the additional help data provided by the second help facility is stored on the second help facility such that the additional help data is supplemented by metadata, the metadata defining the context in which the respective additional help data is relevant.

42.   (previously presented) The method according to claim 38, wherein the additional help data is stored in the second help facility in a structured manner according to a workflow of the user such that, with a determination of additional help data, help data only required for the current processing step is necessary.

43.   (new) The method according to claim 38, wherein the context data is compiled by the first help facility from several different data sources and/or information sources.

44.   (new) The method according to claim 42, wherein the workflow and/or user role are used to determine the offline help data and the online help data.